

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of May, 1901. M. B. HINGATE, Notary Public.

The West Point cadets will realize from now on that the order against hazing is no joke.

If China would take a lesson or two from the Turk in standing off creditors it would be immaterial at what figure the powers assessed the damages.

The Bee would very much like to throw a bouquet at President McKinley as he passes through Omaha, but it cannot consistently recede from its established advertising rates.

King Humbert's assassin has suicided after eight months' confinement under the sentence imposed upon him for his crime. The only pity is that the suicide did not come before he became an assassin.

If Emperor William will read the proceedings of the secret sessions of the United States senate he can see at a glance how successful he is likely to be in suppressing his speeches by barring out reporters.

Cincinnati has organized a society along the lines of the Ak-Sar-Ben. If they will follow faithfully the parent idea the over-the-Rhine goal will appear tame beside the antics of the new candidate for public favor.

A former pugilist fell fourteen stories down an elevator shaft in Milwaukee. He came out in better shape than is usual for the vanquished in a prize fight. Who will dare say now that pugilism has not its uses.

Nature's sprinkling wagon is coming around at just the right time to keep Nebraska's crop growing. After past achievements it probably realizes that the state must do something out of the ordinary to attract attention—just an ordinary big crop is not enough.

Aguinaldo has again indicated a desire to come to the United States to see for himself what manner of people we are and what kind of government we have at home. Aguinaldo must at last have had his eyes opened to the fact that he still has several things to learn.

The public demonstration which greeted Governor Allen on his return to Porto Rico is a convincing answer to the charge that an American rule in the island is unpopular with the people. It is unpopular only with the class which for generations has enjoyed special privileges at the expense of their fellows.

The benefit derived from the Pan-American exposition is strikingly shown by the marked increase of the bank clearings in Buffalo, which for the week just closed are 25 per cent greater than during the corresponding week last year. For all that the totals for Omaha for the same week are still nearly \$500,000 in excess of those of the exposition city.

Chicago university is in a quandary what inscription shall be placed on a memorial tablet to Stephen A. Douglas, the practical founder of the great university. The officials are fearful of offending some of the later day benefactors of the institution who have given it millions in money. Chicago university is supposed to be dedicated to education and it can well pay tribute to the intellect of Douglas without impairing its obligations to financial benefactors.

The advocates of woman's rights have won a signal victory in the state of New York, where a bill giving limited suffrage to women, namely, the right to vote on questions involving appropriations in villages and towns, has passed the legislature and received the approval of the governor. In this respect the legislature has simply decreed that the owners of property, whether they be men or women, shall have a voice in determining whether the property is to be mortgaged. In other words, the women of New York who own real estate in towns will have the privilege of voting on propositions for issuing improvement bonds just the same as men owning town lots.

WHETHER ARE WE DRIFTING?

When the New York Mutual Life Insurance company fixed the salary of Frederick Winston, its president, at \$30,000 a year in the '70s a universal outcry was made in the American press against this exhibition of reckless extravagance with the money that should go to widows and orphans and policyholders. The salary of presidents of the United States from Washington to Grant was \$25,000 a year and when congress raised the salary of President Grant for the second term to \$50,000 a year this act was bitterly denounced by the opposition press.

When the New York Life Insurance company a few years ago raised the salary of John A. McCall, its president, to \$100,000 a year it was supposed that the high-water mark in American salaries had been reached. Three hundred dollars a day seemed a princely income at the close of the nineteenth century. But in the opening days of the twentieth century, with its colossal combinations of capital and industry, all former records have been broken and eclipsed.

It was announced three months ago that President Schwab as the head of the steel trust would receive a salary of \$1,000,000 a year. Within the past few days this report has been corrected by the announcement that Mr. Schwab's salary is to be only \$800,000 a year. This reduction of \$200,000 a year has taken the edge off the staggering disclosure, but for all that it has left a vivid impression upon the minds of the people that causes serious misgivings for the future. Fabulous fortunes will doubtless be forged by the steel-makers' syndicate, but the example set cannot fail to be pernicious.

We naturally institute comparisons between the salaries paid by individual employers and great corporations. William McKinley as president of the United States receives a salary of \$145 a day, while the president of the steel corporation receives \$2,300 per day, and the nine members of the United States supreme court receive only an aggregate of \$90,000 per annum. Coming nearer home we find that the salary of President Schwab for a single day is almost equal to the salary of the governor of Nebraska for the entire year. The salary of Mr. Schwab for eleven days would pay the salaries of every state supreme judge of the United States, including the judges of the state supreme court, for one year.

Without indulging in further invidious comparisons it is pertinent in this connection to point out the demoralizing effect produced by the regal salaries that are being paid by our leading corporations to officers and attorneys.

Not many years ago George W. McCree resigned his position as United States circuit court judge to accept the general attorneyship of the Santa Fe road. Asked why he had given up a life position for a place as corporation counsel, he replied:

"I could not afford to do otherwise on account of my family. I would like to have continued on the bench, but could not afford to reject an appointment that guarantees me \$25,000 a year when the position I hold only pays \$6,000 a year."

So one of the most incorruptible and fearless judges that ever served in this section was lost to the public service. And the case of Judge McCree is not an isolated one. Few men of high standing at the bar can afford to serve the state or the nation when great corporations are willing to pay salaries many times larger than the state and the nation deems sufficient for its public men.

With the multiplication of trusts and corporate combinations, which set the pace for men of executive ability and talent, the contrast between public employment and corporate employment is becoming more marked and the gap between the pay of skilled mechanics employed in the various branches of industry and the favored few who control their operations is growing constantly wider.

The question is naturally forced upon us: Can the taxpayers of the country keep pace with the monarchs of industry by raising the salaries of public officers to correspond with those of corporate managers, or are the affairs of the country to be abandoned to the control of third, fourth and even fifth-class men, while the corporations absorb those of superior ability? Must public office in the future be a badge of inferiority rather than a badge of honor? Must men who desire to gratify their ambition in public life relinquish all hope of maintaining a social position equal to that occupied by the favored attaches of millionaire syndicates?

RECIPROcity SENTIMENT GROWING.

There appears to be no doubt that the sentiment in favor of commercial reciprocity is growing and that there will be a much stronger pressure in behalf of this policy upon the next congress than there was upon the last. The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Press says that the predominating opinion in the more important commercial circles is not only in favor of the ratification of reciprocity treaties, but is in fact so strongly set in that direction that there may be formal and urgent appeals made to the senate next winter by representatives of some of these commercial interests. It is further said that not only in New York, but in some states that are even more reliably republican, a sentiment is rapidly growing, not only among men whose vocation is politics but among those who are engaged in industrial pursuits, that the time is at hand when the republican party must either submit to an attack upon its protective policy, an attack that might assume dangerous proportions, or else must consent to such modification of that policy as is to be discovered in reciprocity agreements.

There appears to be no doubt that President McKinley regards the carrying out of the reciprocity policy as of vital importance to the extension of our foreign trade. This was plainly implied in his allusions to the subject on his journey to the Pacific coast. The obvious inference from his utterances is that the president believes that the time has

come, and that it is in the highest degree essential, if we are to maintain and increase our foreign markets, that there should be new agreements based upon reciprocity between ourselves and other nations. It is also to be inferred from what President McKinley has said that the influence of the administration will be strongly exerted upon the senate at the next session for the ratification at least of the more important of the reciprocity treaties that have been negotiated.

There will, of course, be the same opposition to these treaties which they encountered in the last congress, but the indications are that it will be less influential. Senators who yielded to this opposition are changing their minds and it is not doubted that some of them will be found favoring that policy at the next session.

OTHER OBSTACLES IN THE WAY.

The Clayton-Bulwer treaty is not the only obstacle to be overcome before the United States can proceed with a free hand in the construction of an interoceanic canal. Referring to the opinion of ex-Secretary Foster that the time has come when the highest interests of our country and the maintenance of the Monroe doctrine require that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty should be terminated by act of congress, the New York Journal of Commerce remarks that he does not stop to inquire what, after that has been done, would be the relation of this country toward the obligations into which it has entered for the joint neutralization of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama.

That paper says: "The Hay-Pauncefote treaty provided a way by which the ambiguities of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty should be swept away and the general principle of neutralization established in article VIII of that convention preserved. It is not at all plain that the position would be simplified by leaving the construction of a canal by the United States free from any special stipulations whatever between ourselves and Great Britain. The republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica have bonded themselves by treaty to give certain rights in any canal constructed through their territory to the shipping of most of the maritime powers of Europe, and the theory of absolute American control would seem to require that these, too, should be denounced. In short, the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is only part of a mass of international obligations of which we must take due account in dealing with the status of a transisthmian canal." The Journal of Commerce suggests that it would in every account be safer and more honorable for our government to proceed with more deliberation in this matter than the majority of the popular branch of congress has shown a disposition to do and there are indications that this view is far more largely entertained than it was when this subject was before congress. There now seems to be a very favorable prospect that when the canal question comes before the next congress it will receive more rational discussion than marked its consideration in the last congress.

IS THE MONROE DOCTRINE IN DANGER?

Senator Lodge is a most earnest and persistent champion of the Monroe doctrine. He never omits an opportunity to impress upon the minds of the American people the necessity and duty of firmly maintaining that doctrine and to warn the nations of the old world that any attempt to contravene it will be at their peril. In his address at Buffalo last Monday, the occasion being peculiarly auspicious, the Massachusetts senator had much to say concerning the doctrine enunciated by President Monroe and what he said has received considerable attention, as it well deserves coming from so able and distinguished a member of the United States senate, who will very likely be the chairman of the foreign relations committee of that body.

Speaking to the representatives of South and Central America at the Buffalo exposition, Mr. Lodge urged them to "stand by us in the unswerving maintenance of the Monroe doctrine." He declared that "under no pretense can we of the American hemisphere suffer Europe to enter in and establish colonies or seek to partition Central or South America. We cannot, we will not," he went on to say, "permit any great military power to enter this hemisphere, settle down by our firesides, force us to create great standing armies and from some point of vantage offer an eternal menace to our peace. No power which now has no foothold in this hemisphere can be permitted to come in here and by purchase, lease or other arrangement get control of even the smallest island for the purpose of establishing a naval station or a place of arms." All of which, it is needless to say, will have the unanimous, hearty and unqualified endorsement of the American people.

But is there any real danger of any European power attempting to contravene the Monroe doctrine as suggested by Senator Lodge? He thinks there is and he declared that the danger "cannot be warded off by brave words, by Fourth of July orations or by confident boasting of our strength and resources. It can only be avoided by a thorough agreement among all American states upon the Monroe doctrine and by unceasing watchfulness, complete preparation and the most absolute readiness on the part of the United States." An agreement upon the Monroe doctrine by the republics of this hemisphere is unquestionably desirable, but we do not believe there is any substantial ground for the apprehension expressed by Mr. Lodge. He evidently had in mind reported designs of Germany, but that government has disclaimed any such designs. It is not seeking a naval station in this hemisphere and so far as the alleged German colonization in Brazil is concerned that country can safely be left to look after it and protect Brazilian interests. Germany may not think well of the doctrine that would exclude her from this hemisphere, but she will not attempt to defy it. Nor will any other European power

alone and a combination of them against that doctrine is next to impossible.

Of course our government will be watchful and the wisdom of being prepared for any possible exigency will not be questioned, but the Monroe doctrine is in no present danger, nor is it likely to be in this generation, if ever.

THE IRRIGATION PROBLEM.

One of the problems with which the next congress is expected to deal is the reclamation by irrigation of the arid lands west of the Missouri. The effort made in the last congress to provide for an extensive system of irrigating works fell by the wayside, the opposition to the various irrigation bills coming chiefly from eastern congressmen who regarded the proposed schemes as an attempt to squander money very much as it has for years been annually wasted on so-called river and harbor improvements.

The benefits of irrigation are becoming more widely known from year to year. Surveys made by competent engineers in Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming assure the feasibility of reclaiming many millions of acres that are now practically worthless, but can be made as productive as any under cultivation.

The first question to be determined is whether the national government is to undertake the entire task of providing a system of irrigation commensurate with the demands of the arid region, or whether the lands now owned by the government are to be donated to the states on condition that they bring them under cultivation by irrigation. In carrying out an extensive system of irrigation many complications and obstacles will have to be overcome, not so much in the engineering features as in the conflicts arising out of divergent water rights and divergent state legislation.

With concerted action on the part of the congressional delegations from the states affected the necessary legislation can readily be secured in the next congress. It will not be so much a question of the amount of money to be appropriated as it will be of harmonizing the elements interested upon some measure that all representatives from the west can support.

The convention of chiefs of state and national labor bureaus held at St. Louis devoted most of its attention to the question of methods of statistical observation. If these conventions produce a greater uniformity in the scope of facts and figures gathered together by these bureaus for the various states that will enable comparisons to be made for the purpose of demonstrating the relative efficiency of industrial legislation in various states they will accomplish some good. The chief drawback of the average labor bureau report is that it does not follow out consistently any one line of investigation. It covers too short a period to afford good grounds upon which to base conclusions. Perhaps these defects are due in part to the laws under which the statistical bureaus are operating, and if so, the annual conference ought to endeavor to map out the legislation necessary to promote harmonious and profitable work.

A few more honest confessions like the one made by Senator McLaughlin will put the democratic party in a way to get on the right tack. In speaking of free silver the senator said that what allied himself and many other democrats was that at the time the republicans and the then democratic president were talking about the "restoration of confidence" being what was needed he did not have sense enough to see it. The trouble with most of the other eminent democrats is that they will not see it even after its conclusive demonstration.

Scottish nobility does not take kindly to the recent gift of Andrew Carnegie which put a collegiate education within the reach of the poor boy. The organ of that class asserts that the sons and daughters of earls will not permit themselves to receive free education or to study with the common herd. So much the worse for the sons and daughters of earls. It will not require many generations under such conditions to reduce such aristocracy to an inconsequential part of the people of Scotland, whose sturdy character only needs an opportunity to push itself to the front.

Admiral Cervera is quoted as saying that he fears Spain is drifting to a point where disintegration of the kingdom into small states was to be apprehended. For many years Spain has had a few statesmen who clearly see the trend of the country toward disorganization and decay, but the majority of its leaders have been too blind to see or too inert to act. If the drubbing received at the hands of the United States should prove the means of a real awakening this country will unconsciously have done Spain a great favor.

The latest story of Boer migration is to the effect that a large colony is to plant itself in Brazil. What inducements Brazil can hold out as an assurance of the liberty and independence for which the Boers have been fighting in South Africa is not clear. If they want to have the benefits of an enlightened republic there is no question but that they would concede to the United States the first claim on their devotion.

It is given out that the new deal in the eastern coal roads will work them a saving of \$50,000,000 per year, largely in rebates. Yet for years railroad managers have been regularly insisting when hauled up in court that rebates are a thing of the past. The public is prepared, however, to believe that the statement made to the stockholders is more nearly correct.

J. Sterling Morton comes to the front again with a proposition for a new political party which he thinks has just become ripe. Every political party that was ever launched in this or in any other country was always heralded as

a response to a long-felt want, but the mortality has been decidedly excessive. Most people have the idea that we are possessed for the present of more political parties than we really need and that the field should be cleared of the debris of some that have outlasted their usefulness in order to make way for new successors.

Discontented office seekers in the Philippines are threatening another revolution unless there is a change of program. They will discover, if the attempt is made, that the United States will not stand for any of this kind of fooling. The islands are not to be exploited for the benefit of the politicians, American or native, but affairs will be conducted for the benefit of all the people. Stirring up revolutions under the United States will not be child's play, as in past Spanish regimes.

Supply Unlimited. There is one good thing about college degrees. No matter how many are bestowed there are just as many left.

Drones Hunt for Cover. Indianapolis News. No idle man is safe in Kansas or Nebraska now. He is likely to be taken up, guarded and pressed into service in the harvest fields.

Perils of the Poles. Indianapolis Journal. Three expeditions are trying to locate the South Pole, and six are after the one at the other end of the world. This means nine new faces on the lecture platform next year.

A Golfing Impressionist. Minneapolis Journal. This golf language may be somewhat difficult to understand, but it is warm and to the point when the careless woman, by vigorous stick work, manages to hit her husband on the nose with the metal end of the golf stick.

Hearts Beat in Union. Baltimore American. It is safe to say that in every home in the land there is rejoicing at Mrs. McKinley's recovery, and when the gentle trend of her illness and general health has improved, her case she may feel recompensed for her past danger in its bringing her so near the hearts of the people.

We Have the Best of It. Minneapolis Times. Citizens of the United States are thronging across the border to settle up the waste places of Canada and cause them to produce abundantly the fruits of the earth. At the same time Canadians are coming to the United States in even greater numbers, so in the matter of population we still have the best of the bargain.

Whither Are We Drifting? New York World. The divorces granted in all other civilized countries put together do not equal the number granted in the United States. And while the population is growing at the rate of 23 per cent per annum, the number of divorces is increasing at the rate of nearly 70 per cent per annum. All of which may well make sober-minded citizens, who understand that the strength of a nation is its marriage altars rather than its divorce courts, ask themselves, Whither are we drifting?

Pension Grantees at Work. Indianapolis Journal. The report comes from San Francisco that the pension attorneys are so zealous that they send out runners to meet the soldiers returning from the Philippines on the wharf. The pullers-in of one firm are said to call out: "Come to the doctor, come to the doctor; he can get you \$2 a month more than anyone else." The military authorities have driven these runners off the military reservation and out of the hospitals, but they lie in wait for the soldier as soon as he gets beyond the boundary of military control. Doubtless hundreds of men will be induced to apply for pensions who would not otherwise think of it.

FAT SALARIES IN HAWAII. Liberal Compensation Provided for Officeholders. The territory of Hawaii, U. S. A., makes very liberal provision for its officeholders. With a population of 135,000, or about one-seventh the population of Nebraska, its territorial pay roll far surpasses the salaries attached to like positions in this state, and must be regarded as "clean velvet" by the fortunate patriots of Hawaii. How the money will be distributed is a question the legislature has not yet solved. The Honolulu Republican says the territorial debt now is \$19 per capita and growing.

At the opening of the extra session of the territorial legislature a few weeks ago Governor Dole submitted a list of government employees and salaries. The list was slashed by the legislature, official heads were "recklessly cut off," according to the Republican account, and the salaries of the remaining officers materially reduced. Following is the list approved by the legislature: Judiciary Department—Clerk, \$5,000; stenographer, \$3,500; one messenger, \$1,200. First Circuit—First clerk, \$3,000; second clerk, \$2,500; third clerk, \$2,000; stenographers, \$6,000; district magistrate for Honolulu, \$4,800; Hawaiian interpreter, \$4,000; Chinese interpreter, \$3,000; second district magistrate for Honolulu, \$2,700. Second Circuit—Clerk, \$1,500; district magistrate for Waialua, \$2,700; district magistrate for Honolulu, \$2,000. Third Circuit—Clerk, \$1,500. Fourth Circuit—Clerk, \$2,100; stenographer, \$2,000; district magistrate for Honolulu, \$2,500. Fifth Circuit—Clerk, \$1,200. Attorney General's Department—Attorney general, \$8,000; deputy attorney general, \$4,500; assistant to the attorney general, \$3,000; clerk, \$3,000; high sheriff, \$2,000; sheriff of Hawaii, \$1,500; sheriff of Maui, \$1,000; sheriff of Kauai, \$3,500; clerk to sheriff of Hawaii, \$3,000; clerk to sheriff of Maui, \$1,500; pay of Honolulu police, \$50,000; deputy sheriff of Maui, \$2,400; deputy sheriff of Makawao, \$2,100; pay of Maui police, \$25,000; deputy sheriff of Kauai, \$2,400; pay of Kauai police, \$20,000; pay of Oahu police, \$140,000; guards for public buildings, \$2,400; pay of jailers, etc., \$48,000. Treasury Department—Treasurer, \$8,000; registrar of public accounts, \$4,800; license clerk, \$2,500; stenographer, \$1,800. Tax Bureau—Assessor for Hawaii, \$4,800; assessor for Maui, \$4,200; registrar of conveyances, \$4,800; pay roll inspector, etc., \$15,000. Public Works—Superintendent, \$5,000; assistant superintendent, \$3,000; chief clerk and clerk of market, \$4,800; first assistant clerk and bookkeeper, \$4,000; second assistant clerk, \$3,000; third assistant clerk, \$2,400; stenographer, \$2,400; messenger, \$1,200; draughtsmen, \$6,000; road supervisor, \$4,800; superintendent of water works, \$4,800; first assistant clerk, \$1,800; pay roll government buildings, \$4,444. Public Instruction—Superintendent, \$6,000; back salary for superintendent, \$3,125; secretary, \$3,000; assistant secretary, \$3,000; superintendent of boys' reform school, \$2,000. Public lands commissioner, \$6,000. Board of Health—President, \$7,200; city sanitary officer, \$2,000.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Louisville Courier-Journal: A New York preacher used a Marconi apparatus to ring a bell during his sermon. Of course, it was not a chestnut bell.

Boston Globe: This being the age of condensed foods, some of the Presbyterian brethren are strongly in favor of a condensed creed. But how to carry through the process of condensation still puzzles certain learned upholders of the denominational belief.

Boston Transcript: The Methodist ministers of Worcester county seem to be getting wrought up over the report that President McKinley drank a glass of champagne on board a battleship. This looks more like a case of madness in Methodism than method in madness.

Cincinnati Commercial: Introduction in church of wireless telegraphy as illustration of his sermon is not to be regarded as an innovation, except as to its object. Many young men and women could, if they would, bear testimony to successful experiment in wireless telegraphy across church pews during many a sermon.

New York Sun: Bishop Malleu of Massachusetts and the Methodist church jostles golf. He says that it is "a very silly game for grown men to play" and "a game fitted for little children." "What is more foolish and silly," he asks, "than to see a man take up a club and whack a little round ball to see if he can place it in a little round hole away out in the field somewhere?" Well, possibly it is more foolish and silly to abuse a healthful game simply because you don't play it yourself.

Chicago Chronicle: Anyone might have foreseen that it would come to this at last; consolidation has struck the churches. The pastors' union of Toledo has projected a church trust for the 102 preachers and places of worship in that city. It has been found that there is an overproduction of ministers and of pulpit eloquence and that better results can be secured in Toledo with one-half of the present number of churches and pastors when managed by the trust. Nothing could better illustrate the prevailing liberality, or laxity, of such doctrines and creeds than the fact that such a consolidation should be seriously proposed.

Kansas City Star: The enthusiasm of the Presbyterian general assembly over home missions found expression yesterday in the singing of "America." This was highly appropriate. Home mission work is directed especially toward making the United States a better place to live in. It is essentially a patriotic movement. The home missionary on the western frontier is a pioneer of order and progress. With the establishment of the church in a rough frontier comes a more settled life, order and the amenities of life throughout the community. When the Presbyterians sang the national anthem they were simply giving expression to that love of country on which home mission work is based.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

China is inclined to doubt civilization's promise that "salvation is free."

What will it profit a man if he gains a good will of the world and stakes it on a weather forecast?

Chicago places a few gay leaves on its brow as a tribute to its success as a kindergarten for New York preachers.

All Ben Macaulay, judge of the Kansas City police court, smote a masher with a fine of \$500. May his tribe increase.

Pan-American hotel keeps known a good thing when they see it and work it diligently. Tips from Omaha's bonifaces of '98 are superfluous.

Owing to the growing political storm in Gotham the tribe of Tammany fear that King Richard will swap an American kingdom for an English horse.

Three bearded and four smooth-shaven men and seventeen maidens among the delegates to the mothers' congress at Columbus, O. Perhaps they hail from Missouri.

Some New York reformers rudely shook the residents of Fifth avenue by declaring that Wall street is a gambling macelstrom. Company with it the fortune of a king, a poker, faro and roulette are child's play.

Kansas must have water or perish. If Colorado persists in damming the mountain streams and diverting the necessary of life, Kansas will be justified in carrying the hatchet west to the foothills.

Texas, which enlisted only 1,945 soldiers in the union army during the war, is now more than thirty-five years after its close, the place of residence of 8,100 pensioners and the pension payments there are nearly \$1,600,000.

Chicago points with pride to a professional, home-made masher who engaged himself to twenty men in a boxing ring three months and separated eighteen of them from their cash and jewelry. A teaching record, surely, and worthy of the city.

Clara Ward of Detroit, who achieved notoriety as Princess of Chiquay and Mr. Rigo, has had her allowance from the paternal estate cut down to \$3,000 a year. In the hands of a strenuous woman the allowance will keep things moderately warm.

The court of appeals of the District of Columbia called up the local telephone company and took a fall out of the management. The latter thought itself "a bigger man" than congress, denying the right of congress to regulate charges, but the court in substance said to the company, "if you want to do business in the District do as congress says. If not, move on." It will take several days for the company to recover from the shock. Meanwhile, subscribers refrain from "breaking in."

RAILROAD PRINCIPALITIES.

Partition of the Country by the Railroads. Boston Transcript.

An attempt has been made to group the large railroad systems of the country in view of the recent progress of the "community of interest" idea. The Harriman-Kuhn Loeb & Co. group figures a total mileage of 29,245 and easily leads. The Morgan group has 19,073 miles and the Northern Pacific-C. B. & Q. group has 18,453 miles. Many think of the latter as a Morgan combination, and if so we have 27,236 miles under that control. The Vanderbilt group has 19,517 miles, the Pennsylvania 18,220 and the Gould 16,074. If the 7,808 miles of the Atchison be added to the Pennsylvania there is a total of 26,025 miles. In the tabulation the St. Paul, the Rock Island and the Louisville & Nashville are considered separately. Together they have 15,041 miles and doubtless will land ultimately among the various combines.

In effect, less than six groups of ownership now control considerably over 100,000 miles of railroad and are likely to control more. The railway situation is settling down to a division along practically horizontal lines—the Northern Pacific group in the north, the Morgan in the middle and the Kuhn Loeb & Co. in the southwest. It takes but little imagination these days to reconstruct the railway map of the United States. Most solid of all the combinations is the Vanderbilt, reaching from Boston to Omaha; a symmetrical colossus on natural lines of strength is the Pennsylvania-Atchison, giving a transcontinental line, well secured by branches and feeders; the Gould group is well fortified in its territory and the southern combination shows ability and wisdom in its amalgamation. It is the Northern Pacific-Union Pacific business that is still "adjusting," and when the dust of the conflict clears it is very likely that these great roads with others like the St. Paul and Rock Island, as yet unclassified, will be seen in a close and harmonious relation to the whole.

"The United States railroad" may not be so much of a dream as some think—everything points in that direction and it will take time and perhaps the rage for combination may be checked by unlooked for and untoward consequences of its own intensity, but certainly giant strides are taking towards making the expression "community of interest" hold very much of a practical meaning.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

The Smart Set: Husband—Today I met a gentleman who told me he was engaged to you at one time. Wife—What did you say? "I congratulated him, of course."

Philadelphia Record: Mrs. Newbridge (who has been baking—I wonder who first invented angel cakes?) asked her husband to bake her some. "I don't know, but I fancy it was one of the fallen angels."

Detroit Free Press: "Why on earth, Lucy," said my ever consent to marry Mr. Pittagober?" "Why," replied Lucy slowly and apologetically, "I thought he'd do to begin with."

Pittsburg Chronicle: Parke—I suppose you have had great hopes of that new baby of yours, haven't you? Lane—Well, yes, I have, old man. When I think of that baby, baby, I'm likely to be fairly tremble at my own insouciance.

Philadelphia Press: "Poor Henpeck's wife still bosses him." "Nonsense! She's dead." "I know," suggested one, "spiritualist, and he can get away from her."

"Ah! She is the ruling spirit strong in death!"

Chicago Post: They were speaking of the wedding. "It was a high church affair, I understand." Here the head of the house and father of the bride became suddenly interested.

"High?" he exclaimed. "High, well, if you had to pay the bills I guess you would think so."

Detroit Journal: The woman wept bitterly. "One," she protested, "you talked of burning with love!" "And now," sneered the man, "I am not permitted to smoke, even in the house!" "But not; it could not be that she here was was accessible for her own unhappiness."

TWAS NOT ENOUGH.

S. B. McManus in Ram's Horn. "Twas not enough to give the cup of water cold. And bid the stranger rest beneath my wild porch shade. When just within the door refreshments of bread and meat were on my table laid. Though thankful he for what I chose to share, I should have hidden him unto my table fare."

"Twas not enough to say, 'Sad heart, take better cheer.' And bid the stranger on his way—Not let him pass from sight beset with gloom and fear. When he had said his part with me for the day. And heeded his sores and slept upon my bed. And soothed his aches with head soft pillow."

"Twas not enough for me, to words of counsel say. And bid him mend his life and seek of nobler things. And then on benedict knees to eloquently pray. For him, and miserlike withhold the human ministrings. Of help and love, and walk with him to show. The better, safer path where I would have him go."

Each were enough and God would make it best. And sanctified the gift, had I not soiled it. For mine and me the choicest and the best! And when he fell and fall, had laid me down and slept. God's sanction comes, and Heaven's eternal prize. Is won, by self-effaced and Christlike sacrifice.

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